

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LIMA 05786 302138Z  
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 ARA-14 CA-01 H-02 PA-02  
NSCE-00 SS-15 /041 W  
-----116349 302146Z /23  
O 302118Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 735

UNCLAS LIMA 5786

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES PE (HAND, KEITH) (KALDOR, JOSEPH) (KLEIN, ALBERT)  
SUBJ: W/W DEATHS OF KEITH HAND, JOSEPH KLADOR, ALBERT KLEIN

REF: LIMA 5754

1. NOTIFICATION CABLES HAVE BEEN DISPATCHED TO HAND, KALDOR AND KLEIN FAMILIES, CONTAINING FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DEATH.

2. THREE MEMBERS OF CLIMBING TEAM, HAND, KALDOR AND KLEIN, WERE LAST SEEN ALIVE ON MONDAY JUNE 26 ON WEST SUMMIT. ON TUESDAY, JUNE 27, TWO OTHER CLIMBING TEAMS, ONE SWISS AND ONE PERUVIAN-AMERICAN, WHEN ON OR NEAR SUMMIT SAW BODY OF MAN IDENTIFIED TO US BY JAMES PAINTER AS THAT OF ALBERT KLEIN LYING BELOW SUMMIT. THE TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THREE-MAN TEAM HAVE NOT BEEN SPOTTED AND PAINTER SAYS THEY WOULD HAVE DIED OF EXPOSURE. PAINTER PRESUMES PARTY EITHER ATTEMPTED DESCENT DURING NIGHT OR WERE BLOWN OFF SUMMIT. CLIMBING TEAMS WHO SAW KLEIN'S BODY REACHED BASE CAMP ON WEDNESDAY AND PAINTER REACHED HUARAZ, WHERE HE COULD CALL EMBASSY ON THURSDAY. PAINTER HAS RETURNED TO SITE BUT MESSAGES CAN BE LEFT FOR HIM AT HOTEL BARCELONA IN HUARAZ, TEL, 2179.

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2. EMBASSY CONTACTED POLICE (GUARDIA CIVIL) FRIDAY MORNING. GUARDIA CIVIL IS ASSEMBLING TEAM OF STAFF AVAILABLE IN HUARAZ TO AID IN SEARCH. CONSULAR OFFICER WILL ARRIVE IN HUARAZ TO COORDINATE SEARCH ACTIVITIES ON JULY 1. MESSAGE HAS BEEN LEFT FOR PAINTER TO ADVISE HIM OF PARTICIPATION BY GUARDIA CIVIL (WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY REFUSED ASSISTANCE IN HUARAZ) AND OF ARRIVAL

OF CONSULAR OFFICER. MESSAGES TO FAMILY NOTED THAT IT  
WILL PROBABLY BE MONDAY, JULY 3, OR LONGER BEFORE RESULTS  
OF SEARCH ARE REALLY KNOWN AND SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY LIMA,  
RATHER THAN HUARAZ, BE CALLED SINCE CONOFF WILL BE IN AT  
LEAST DAILY TOUCH WITH EMBASSY. ON BASIS PAST HISTORY  
SIMILAR ACCIDENTS MT. HUASCARAN, EMBASSY NOT OPTIMISTIC RE  
PROBABILITY OF RECOVERY ALL THREE BODIES. MOUNTAIN IS 22,000  
FEET HIGH, TREACHEROUS AND EVEN VISIBLE BODIES HAVE BEEN FOUND  
IN POSITIONS TOTALLY UNSAFE FOR RECOVERY BY EXPERT CLIMBERS.  
SHLAUDEMAM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** W/W DEATHS OF KEITH HAND, JOSEPH KLADOR, ALBERT KLEIN  
**TAGS:** CDES, PE, (HAND, KEITH), (KALDOR, JOSEPH), (KLEIN, ALBERT)  
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